(b) if so, the number of cases in which the Delhi Police personnel were found involved in such crimes since the beginning of 1994 as compared to the corresponding period in 1993;

(c) what action has been taken by Government to check the criminal tendencies among the police personnel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) No. Sir. During the period from 1.1.94 to 31-10-94, 31 police personnels have been found involved in 20 corruption and rape cases while 36 police personnels were involved in 23 cases of corruption adn rape cases during the corresponding period from 1-1-93 to 31-10-93.

(c) With a view to curb involvement of policemen in crime and to retain public confidence in police, the police department has been taking exemplary deterrent action including disciplinary proceedings in all cases where policemen are found involved in crimes The department is revising the training syllabus, both for initial training and refresher courses, to bring about the required behavioural changes among policemen. Besides briefing is also being given by senior officers to the members of the force through Sampark Sabhas-Accessibility of senior officers to public is on the increase and a close watch is being kept on the conduct to policemen particularly those with doubtful integrity, by the Vigilance Branch and the Anti-Corruption Branch of the Government.

Sale of Five Islands in Andamans

126. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that five sensitive islands in the Andamans have been sold out—four to M/s. Imperial Granite Co. of Madras and one to Capt. Kesri Noble:

(b) if so the circumstances under which the sale of islands took place and the conditions laid down about it.

(c) whether this sale had prior approval of Central Government or it was done by the Island Admn.: and

(d) what is the present status of these five islands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Atrocities against women

127. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cases of atrocities of dalits, backwards, scheduled castes; scheduled tribes; women etc. are on the increased in the country especially in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and North Eastern States;

(b) if so, the number of cases of atrocities on women, stripping; killing; etc. in the country; State-wise and UT-wise, in the last twelve months and how do these compare with the preceeding three year;

(c) the action Government of India has taken to check such crimes and the number of people who have been punished therefor giving details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) and (c) The registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crimes, including crimes against women, is the responsibility of the State Governments/UT Administrations. However, the Government of India have initiated a number of measures to check such crime. The Dowry Prohibition Act (1961) was amended in 1984 and 1986 to make the law more stringent. The Indian Penal Code, the